

## A circular ink stamp from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The text "U.S. PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE" is arranged in a circle around the date "AUG 17 2006". Above the date, the letters "P E" are visible, likely part of a larger word like "OFFICE".

**Confirmation No.: 1270**

- ☐ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	0	20	0	x \$ 50 (1202)	\$ 0
Independent Claims	0	3	0	x \$ 200 (1201)	0
<input type="checkbox"/> If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$ 360 (1203)					\$ 0
<b>Total Claim Amendment Fee</b>					<b>\$ 0</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					0
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$ 0</b>

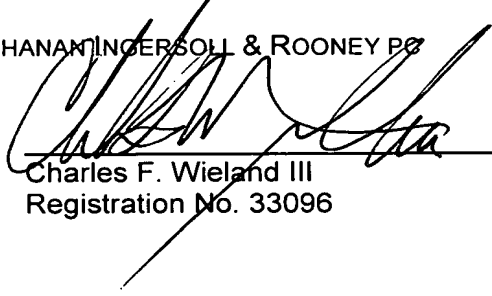
- ☐ Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to credit card for the fee due. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date August 17, 2006

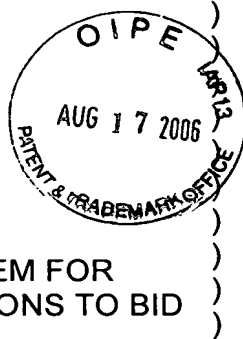
By:

  
 Charles F. Wieland III  
 Registration No. 33096

P.O. Box 1404  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1404  
 703 836 6620

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of  
Wolfgang Moderegger et al.  
Application No.: 09/944,379  
Filed: September 4, 2001  
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
MANAGING INVITATIONS TO BID



Group Art Unit: 3627  
Examiner: Oger Garcia Ade  
Confirmation No.: 1270

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement dated July 28, 2006. The Office divides the claims into two groups: Group I, including claims 1-43; and Group II, including claims 49-56, and 59. However, both Groups of claims have been extensively examined on the merits and no changes to the claims represent a shift in invention that would justify a late restriction requirement. Specifically, prosecution of claims 1-43, 49-56 and 59 has spanned nearly two years, three Office actions, and three replies. Further, a restriction of the original set of claims, resulting in the current reduced set of claims, has already been imposed. Under these circumstances, the Office cannot justify new restriction, particularly under the standards set forth in MPEP § 803, 811, 811.02 and 811.03 insofar as there can be no "serious burden" on the Office if the restriction is not imposed, and a late restriction has not "become proper".

For completeness, Applicants elect Group I, which includes claims 1-43, with traversal, for examination at this time.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: August 17, 2006

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles F. Wieland III', written over a horizontal line.

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